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Application No.: 10/785,089

Docket No.: 713-1044

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A locking device for a cover which is locked by a first push and unlocked by a second push, said device comprising:

a case open at one of ends thereof;

a sliding member engaged in said case and moveable with respect to said case in a sliding direction, said sliding member comprising a body and two opposed elastic claws which, when not urged, are maintained apart from each other, wherein said device has a locked position when the sliding member is inserted in the case with two opposed faces of the case holding the two claws brought towards each other, and a release position with the two opposed faces of the case freeing the claws;

a spring being arranged between the body of the sliding member and the case, and urging the sliding member towards the release position;

the case having a work face provided with an elastic leg moveable in the plane of said work face, the elastic leg being provided with a follower projecting towards an interior ~~inside~~ of the case;

the sliding member having, parallel to said work face, a planar cam surface from which projects, towards the work face, a central island about which is formed a cam track for the follower, wherein the follower, with respect to the island, is in a captive position when the device is in the locked position and in a free position when the device is in the release position; and

on the first push, the follower passing from the free position to the captive position by a first path on the cam track and, on the second push, the follower passing from the captive position to the free position by a second path distinct from the first path;

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Application No.: 10/785,089Docket No.: 713-1044

wherein said follower, while traveling on the first and second paths, moves in the plane of said work face from one of the two opposed faces of the cases towards the other, and vice versa; and

wherein said leg and said follower are integral parts of said case.

2-3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A locking device for a cover which is locked by a first push and unlocked by a second push, said device comprising:

a case open at one of ends thereof;

a sliding member engaged in said case and moveable with respect to said case in a sliding direction, said sliding member comprising a body and two opposed elastic claws which, when not urged, are maintained apart from each other, wherein said device has a locked position when the sliding member is inserted in the case with two opposed faces of the case holding the two claws brought towards each other, and a release position with the two opposed faces of the case freeing the claws;

a spring being arranged between the body of the sliding member and the case, and urging the sliding member towards the release position;

the case having a work face provided with an elastic leg moveable in the plane of said work face, the elastic leg being provided with a follower projecting towards an inside of the case;

the sliding member having, parallel to said work face, a planar cam surface from which projects, towards the work face, a central island about which is formed a cam track for the follower, wherein the follower, with respect to the island, is in a captive position when the device is in the locked position and in a free position when the device is in the release position; and

on the first push, the follower passing from the free position to the captive position by a first path on the cam track and, on the second push, the follower passing from the captive position to the free position by a second path distinct from the first path;

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Application No.: 10/785,089

Docket No.: 713-1044

wherein said follower, while traveling on the first and second paths, moves in the plane of said work face from one of the two opposed faces of the cases towards the other, and vice versa; and

wherein said ~~The device according to claim 1,~~ said elastic leg ~~comprises~~ comprising two branches each attached to a corner of the work face, the two branches joining together at the follower.

5. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein said follower has a cross section which is taken in a plane parallel to the plane of the work face and comprises comprising a lateral-flat straight side.

6. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, said cam track is further defined by two lateral walls substantially parallel to the direction of sliding, as well as by a peninsula facing the central island and being situated at the connection of the elastic claws to the body of the sliding member, said lateral walls and said peninsula projecting from the cam surface towards the work face.

7. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, said central island comprising a first edge parallel to the direction of sliding, a second edge extending obliquely from one end of the first edge, said first and second two edges being connected by a third, curved edge bowed towards the inside of the central island.

8. (currently amended) The device according to claim 7, the peninsula comprising two edges forming a point directed towards the central island, one of said two edges being situated on the same side as the second edge of the central island and being straight and parallel to the direction of sliding, while the other of said two edges being situated on the same side as the first edge of the central island and being oblique.

Application No.: 10/785,089**Docket No.: 713-1044****BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

9-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, the cam surface further comprising a non-return rib projecting from said surface towards the work face and arranged parallel to the direction of sliding, said non-return rib extending between the central island and the peninsula.

12. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, the case comprising a guide aperture on one of its sides perpendicular to the opening, wherein the sliding member comprises a tooth engaged in said guide aperture.

13. (previously presented) The device according to claim 12, the case comprising an engagement groove situated on an inner face of the side on which the guide aperture is formed, the engagement groove continuing on from the guide aperture to one end of the case and having a depth smaller than that of said guide aperture.

14. (previously presented) The device according to claim 12, said tooth comprising a bevel.

15. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, the lateral walls comprising a portion projecting beyond the opposite end of the sliding member from the claws and adapted to be inserted in an aperture formed in the opposite face of the case from the opening.

16-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A locking assembly operable by first and second pushes, said assembly comprising:

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Application No.: 10/785,089

Docket No.: 713-1044

a case open at one end and having an elastic leg deformable ~~moveable~~ in a plane of a work face of said case, said elastic leg having a follower which projects ~~projecting~~ toward an interior of said case and is moveable as the elastic leg deforms; and

a sliding member operatively positioned and moveable in a sliding direction in said case, said sliding member operatively urged away from said case, said sliding member comprising:

a body having a cam surface facing the work face of said case, said cam surface having a central island projecting toward the work face and a cam track formed thereabout for the follower, the follower being in a captive position when the assembly is in a locked position and in a free position when the assembly is in a released position; and

two opposed elastic claws which when not urged are maintained apart from each other, wherein said two claws are brought toward each other when the assembly is in the locked position and the sliding member is inserted in the case and wherein said two claws are released when the assembly is in the released position;

wherein the follower passes from the free position to the captive position by a first path on the cam track as a result of a first push, and the follower passes from the captive position to the free position by a second path distinct from the first path as a result of a second push; and

wherein said follower, while traveling on the first and second paths, moves, in the plane of said work face and relative to said case, a distance greater than a maximum width of said central island as measured in a direction transverse to the sliding direction.

19. (currently amended) The locking assembly of claim 18, wherein said elastic leg further comprises ~~comprising~~ two branches located in the plane of said work face and converging towards each other ~~each attached to a corner of the work face and joining together at the follower from different portions of said work face~~.

20. (canceled)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Application No.: 10/785,089

Docket No.: 713-1044

21. (currently amended) The locking assembly of claim ~~[[18]]~~ 23, wherein said central island is an integral part of said body.

22. (new) The locking assembly of claim 19, wherein said branches converge towards the follower from corners of said work face, and said branches and a side of said work face located between said corners together define a generally triangular aperture opening into the interior of said case.

23. (new) The locking assembly of claim 22, wherein each of said branches includes a first, curved section extending from the respective corner towards a center of said work face and a second section extending from the first curved section to the follower.

24. (new) The device according to claim 11, wherein said non-return rib is a straight rib having a first end on the peninsula and a second end which is closer to the island than the first end and spaced from the central island by a gap.

25. (new) The device according to claim 1, wherein said work face has, in the plane thereof, an aperture opening into the interior of said case and said elastic leg is moveable within said aperture.

26. (new) The device according to claim 25, wherein said elastic leg comprises two branches located in the plane of said work face and converging towards the follower from different portions of a peripheral edge of said aperture.

27. (new) The locking assembly of claim 26, wherein said branches converge towards the follower from corners of said aperture, and said branches and a side of said peripheral edge located between said corners together define three sides of an opening.

Application No.: 10/785,089

Docket No.: 713-1044

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

28. (new) The locking assembly of claim 26, wherein each of said branches is deformable in the plane of said work face to move said elastic leg within said aperture.